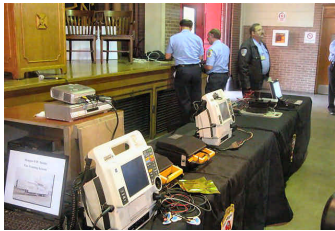


## Baltimore City Fire Department Receives \$1.3 Million Award From U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Through the 2005 Assistance to Firefighters Act Program, the Baltimore City Fire Department was awarded \$1.3 million, by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

In an effort to enhance the quality of services provided to the citizens of Baltimore, it is necessary for the Department to upgrade firefighter training, equipment and resources to remain on the cutting edge of technology. The Department considered additional training and state-of-the-art equipment that could enhance the member knowledge base in order to address emergencies that are confronted in the City of Baltimore daily.



Through a vigorous grant application process, the Department was fortunate to secure the funding needed, to purchase a Mobile Training Trailer, a Mesh/Network Enabled Architecture (MEA) System, 12- Lead AEDs and ALS Training.

The Mobile Training Trailer will enable the department to teach firefighters in the most basic skills; utilizing live, hands-on, fire education.

The purchase of a MEA system will support firefighter and public safety operations to decrease fire related injuries through improved personnel accountability on the fireground. The MEA system is capable of hosting computers in fire apparatus at the scene, with ready- to- share information regarding incidents involving firefighters and units that have been deployed. It also has the capacity to transmit and view camera feeds that will allow an incident commander to track the progress during an incident, and to determine if additional resources are required. The immediate outcome of this funding source will improve communication among personnel during daily fire operations; resulting in lives saved and a reduction in property loss.

To address the growing demand on the EMS system and provide for the health needs of our community, the department will equip forty-four first line suppression companies with 12-Lead/AEDs and provide the necessary training to decrease the mortality of sudden cardiac events. In the near future, the Baltimore City Fire Department will be better equipped to mitigate, manage and communicate; utilizing state-of-the-art technology.

Many of these objectives could not be met without the support of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The Baltimore City Fire Department extends its sincerest appreciation for your support.